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CITY PRIMARY COMES MONDAY

Voters Urged to Express Their Opinions in Battle of Ballots.

IS AN ELIMINATION CONTEST

One Candidate for Commission Nomination; One for Justice Will Lose.

The second non-partisan primary to be held under the commission form of city government will be held in Alma on Monday, March 7, and in view of the big problems that will confront the city government during the next few years the primary should be considered as an important elimination factor for the voters of the city.

They should be interested, it is pointed out, in seeing that their favorite candidates get their votes at the primary that they may not be eliminated, for the regular spring election, which is to come four weeks after the preliminary contest.

As there are only two candidates for mayor neither of them will be eliminated at the primary, but both will continue through to the election. The names of five candidates appear on the ballot for city commissioners, and one of these must be eliminated under the requirements of the charter, as only twice the number to be elected can have their names on the official election ballot in April. It is probable that those favoring any certain candidates be at the polls to give expression as to their belief, in the effort to put the name of his or her respective candidate on the April election ballot. The men who filed initiative petitions and have their names on the primary ballot seeking nomination as commissioners are Frank O. Parker, Arthur E. Davies, Albert J. Archer, Philip W. Greaser and Francis E. West.

There are three candidates for nomination for justice of the peace, and here again it will be necessary to eliminate one candidate. The candidates for the nomination, two of whom will get their names on the April ballot, are Joseph L. Biggerstaff, Geo. H. Carl and D. Lloyd Johnson.

Only one candidate for supervisor filed a petition in any of the four wards, and their election is assured.

PLEASING PLAY

"The Master of Ballantrae" Appreciated by Audience.

The appearance of Walker Whiteside at the Strand theater Friday evening in Robert Louis Stevenson's stirring romance, "The Master of Ballantrae," drew a crowded house of theater-goers from Alma, Ithaca, St. Louis and even from Mt. Pleasant.

The appearance of such strong companies in the better known plays at the Strand theater is meeting with a rapidly gaining favor in Alma and nearby cities, as it is no longer necessary to go to Saginaw, Grand Rapids or Lansing to see them, and hopes are being held by such people that Alma may have such organizations at the Strand more often in the future.

The cast for "The Master of Ballantrae" which appeared in Alma is the same that appeared in New York and which last year toured the country, meeting with highly flattering success wherever it appeared. Supported by a strong cast throughout, Walker Whiteside was the better able to make a brilliant presentation of "The Master of Ballantrae," carrying the part of James Duffie in a very exacting and pleasing manner. The musical program, for the greater part Scottish selections, was also very pleasing to the large audience.

ROAD MEETING

A number of prominent good roads workers from various parts of the state will be at Ithaca Monday, March 7, to address a big mass meeting to be held there in the interests of the proposed new Colgrove trans-state highway, which, if it follows the present proposed route will go through Gratiot county a few miles south of Alma, and will be of vital importance to Gratiot. Among the speakers will be Phil T. Colgrove of Hastings, president of the Michigan Good Roads Association, in whose honor the road is to be named. W. S. Linton of Saginaw, W. M. Bryant of Kalamazoo, Senator Harvey A. Penney and others.

AUCTION SALE

There will be an auction sale on March 10, 1921, at Fred O'Boyle's farm, two miles south of Shepherd. Stock, machinery and farm implements will be offered for sale. The sale was postponed one day.—adv.

GOOD BANQUET

Large Crowd Attends Father and Son Banquet Last Night.

The annual Father and Son banquet held last evening in the gymnasium of Alma high school, under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A., was the best attended function of the kind that has ever been held in Alma, about four hundred and fifty attending the affair.

The big attendance at the banquet was one of the most surprising features connected with it, as it had not been expected that over three hundred would attend, and plans had been made for about this number. The large gathering crowded the gymnasium to capacity. The various addresses that were given showed every evidence of the most careful preparation, and were especially well greeted by the many who heard them.

COLLEGE WILL HOLD BANQUET

Members of Chamber of Commerce and Their Wives Invited to Affair.

Tuesday evening the members of the Alma Chamber of Commerce and also their wives will be guests of Alma College at a banquet to be held at Wright Hall, at which time H. M. Crooks, president of Alma College, and Mr. Resler, of Ward, Hill, Pierce & Wells, will explain to members of the organization its plans for the endowment campaign in Gratiot county and Alma, also the state-wide endowment campaign, in which Alma has a deep interest because of the many changes that it promises to make in the future for the betterment of the institution.

President Crooks, who is devoting practically all of his time in the Detroit office, which have been opened for the state wide campaign, was in Alma Tuesday of this week, and at that time with Mr. Resler, manager of the local campaign officers, and H. E. Reece, manager of the Alma Chamber of Commerce, laid plans for the banquet Tuesday evening.

The general plan of the endowment campaign has not yet been fully worked out, and it is expected that following the banquet Tuesday evening various committees will be appointed from the membership of the Alma Chamber of Commerce to work in connection with the big endowment drive in Gratiot county, where \$10,000 is to be raised for the erection of a Memorial gymnasium to the memory of the service men, not only of the college, but of the entire county.

MRS. ELIZA POST DIED ON TUESDAY

Pioneer Alma Resident Donated Post Vault and Chapel to City of Alma.

Mrs. Eliza Post, a pioneer resident of Alma and Gratiot county, who for years has been a highly respected resident of this part of the state, died at the home of Mrs. Frank Gilkin, just south of Alma, on Tuesday morning at the age of 94 years.

Alma people have had a strong affection for Mrs. Post, who had always had a tender regard for this city, which ten years ago caused her to donate to the city the funds with which Post vault and chapel in Riverside cemetery was constructed. It was a gift to the city that promises to grow more valuable as the years pass.

Eliza Raycraft, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Raycraft, was born in England, and when still an infant moved with her parents to Ireland. When she was still a small child they moved to Rochester, N. Y., where they resided until she was ten years of age, when her parents removed to Bingle township, Clinton county, where she was continued to reside until she was married at the age of 21. One child was born to this union, which died three years later.

She moved to Alma with her husband, who for some years conducted (Continued on page four)

GO TO MIDLAND

Coach Mullin's Alma high school basketball team will meet Midland at Midland Friday evening in what is expected to be a hard fought game. The Midland team, which defeated the Almatites on the local floor by a three point margin recently, is a favorite for the honors of the evening, but the locals are hopeful that they will be able to secure revenge for the previous beating.

TEACHERS AND BETHANY LOSE

Alma Played Wonderful Ball in Defeating Ypsi's Prospective Champs.

MOUNTAINEERS FIGHT HARD

Presbyterians Late Start in Friday Game Gave Kalamazoo a Victory.

During the past week the Alma College basketball five has won two games and lost one, both victories being surprises for the fans, one coming Saturday over the Michigan State Normal's previously undefeated M. I. A. A. team, and the other coming Tuesday evening over Bethany College of West Virginia, which has been making a good record in the east this year. The one game that was lost went to Kalamazoo.

Bethany-Alma. Tuesday evening, with Capt. Dahlgren still out of the game, and "Jimmy" Beattie removed early in the battle because of illness, the Collegians were forced to the limit to maintain an early lead that had been taken over Bethany, but finally won by a score of 29 to 20.

Bethany took the lead at the start of the fray with a foul, but was quickly headed by the Steele-coached team. The visitors rallied, however, and soon managed to get a point lead again, but could not hold it and the half ended with Alma leading 19 to 14. Numerous changes in the Alma lineup hurt both the offense and defense in the early part of the second stanza, and the team slowed up in a most noticeable manner. Bethany for a few moments rained shots at the basket, and had the visitors had the least sign of luck at that stage they would have quickly sewed up the contest. The West Virginians did get dangerous enough to cause Coach Steele to make still further shifts in the lineup and then the Alma offense got under way again, and very soon had the game tied up tight.

Kirker, Waggoner and "Jimmy" Howe featured in the scoring department for the Maroon and Cream, while Waggoner, Van Page and "Hawshaw" were playing strong, defensive games. Wells was the big noise for the visitors.

Alma—29 Bethany—20
Beattie rf Patterson
Kirker lf Kelly
French c Wells
Van Page rg Stewart
Waggoner iz Randolph
Field baskets—Kirker 3, Howe 3, Waggoner 3, Beattie 1, Randolph 2, Kelly, Stewart.
Fouls—Beattie 0 in 3, Kirker 5 out of 6, Kelly 2 out of 4, Patterson 0 in 2.

Substitutions—Howe for Beattie, Waggoner for French, Scott for Waggoner, French for Waggoner, Waggoner for Scott, Shaffer for Randolph, Collar for Kelly, Randolph for Shaffer, Shaffer for Collar, Kelly for Shaffer.
Score first half—Alma 19, Bethany 15. Referee—Mullin, Kazoo Normal.

Ypsi-Alma.

The defeat of Ypsilanti, unlooked for except by one dopster, has taken from the Green and White a basketball championship, which not only Ypsi, but every other college in the association, had counted a tied up fight. The defeat suffered by them undoubtedly will throw Kalamazoo College and Ypsi into a tie for first place, and under the M. I. A. A. rules no title will be awarded unless a play-off is made. As both teams close their seasons this coming week it is considered as highly improbable that a play off for the title will be held.

Thus Alma, while out of the title race, had the privilege of spoiling a championship in basketball for any (Continued on page two)

W. R. C. THIMBLE CLUB

The W. R. C. Thimble Club met with Mrs. Ellen Pardee on March 1. Twenty-eight members and five visitors were present. After a sumptuous dinner was served, two quilt tops were finished and sold. Mrs. Martha Walker presented the W. R. C. with a beautiful quilt top, a number on which was given with each dinner ticket. Mrs. Kate Entlerline drew the quilt top and gave it back to the W. R. C. to be sold at the next meeting. The proceeds from this sale will be used in buying a flag.

After the usual order of business, Mr. Corral was introduced. He offered to present the best looking lady with a beautiful plant, finally deciding the matter by throwing his cap and presenting the plant to the lady who got it. It was finally won by Mrs. Mary Baker.

The next meeting of the club will be held on Tuesday, March 15. It meets with Mrs. Eva Fisher, 520 Hannah avenue.

RETAINS POST



H. L. DEWEY

DEWEY RETAINS REPUBLIC POST

Veteran of Nine Years' Service Remains Head of Special Equipment Department.

Col. Frank E. Smith, Vice-President and General Manager of the Republic Motor Truck Company, Inc., announces that H. L. Dewey will retain his present position as head of the Special Equipment Department of the Republic Truck Sales Corporation, through which Republic Motor Trucks are merchandised.

Dewey's connection with the Republic organization dates back to 1912, when the concern was known as the Alma Manufacturing Company. During his first two years with the institution he was in charge of the Engineering Department and devoted considerable time to problems of engineering and production. For two years following 1914 Dewey was located at Grand Rapids, Michigan, as the Company's retail dealer and installed the first quota of Republic Trucks placed in that territory.

In 1916 Dewey was recalled to the Republic Factory to personally conduct an experimental and sales tour from the factory at Alma, Michigan, to Los Angeles, California. He accomplished this work with gratifying success, and at its conclusion organized and took charge of the work which later developed into the Company's present Special Equipment Department.

In addition to his engineering and sales experience with the Republic line, Dewey for the past three or four years, devoted his efforts particularly to promoting the Company's sale of Special Equipment apparatus, including road sprinklers, flushers, orchard sprayers, lumber hauling equipment, special contractors' trucks, passenger omnibuses, and other varieties of specially designed truck body equipment.

In retaining Mr. Dewey as head of the Company's Special Equipment Department, General Sales Manager A. J. Whipple is assured of an expert who will be of material assistance in further developing the considerable special equipment business which the Company has enjoyed for several years past.

STARTED SUNDAY

Revival Services at Baptist Church Drawing Good Crowds.

In all churches of the Saginaw Baptist Association revival services started on Sunday, the services in the Alma Baptist church being a part of this simultaneous campaign. Evangelist J. J. Pence of Bay City is assisting E. E. Shaffer, pastor, in the special efforts that are being made in the local church this week. The meetings are being attended by good crowds, showing the interest that there is in the messages that the speaker has, and the clear and forceful presentation that he has. L. R. May is at his best this week in directing the choir.

Services will be held every evening during the balance of the week, and all of next week. They will start at 7:30. Thursday evening is to be "Men's Night" and Friday evening "Young People's Night." Saturday evening will be "Farmer's Night." Afternoon prayer meetings are being held in homes and at 4 p. m. a meeting for boys and girls will be held in the church, excepting on Saturday and Monday afternoons.

The church extends a hearty welcome to the service, says Rev. Shaffer.

A mile of records at 55 cents each at Sawkins. Hurry.—adv.

GEO. W. PULFREY DIED SATURDAY

Had Been in Hotel Business in Central Michigan For Forty-Two Years.

BUILT THE ARCADE IN 1889

Had Held a Number of Offices of Trust in the City Government.

George W. Pulfrey for forty-two years one of the best known hotel men in Central Michigan, and for the past thirty years proprietor of the Arcade hotel in Alma, died at his home on West Superior street shortly after noon on Saturday, February 26. He was 69 years of age. He was born in Seneca county, New York, January 18, 1852, being the son of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Pulfrey. In 1864 he came to Gratiot county, Michigan, with his parents, who settled in Washington township.

When sixteen years of age Mr. Pulfrey left the farm, following hotel work for a short time. He then drove stage between St. Johns and St. Louis for a period of three years. In 1873 he became a clerk in the Exchange hotel of St. Louis continuing in that capacity until in the spring of 1878, when he leased the Hotel Seaman in Alma, and moved to this city, then a struggling village. A year and a half later he purchased the hotel, and continued to conduct it for the next five years. At that time he disposed of the hotel and purchased a grocery. Later he sold this and went to Plano, Illinois, where he engaged in the hotel business for a year, after which he returned to Alma again.

In 1889 Mr. Pulfrey constructed the Arcade hotel, at the corner of Superior street and Prospect avenue, which he continued to own up to the time of his death. Much of the time since 1889 he conducted the hotel himself, but at various times leased it and conducted hotels in St. Johns, Ann Arbor, Grosse Pointe and Frankfort. At the time of his death he was by far the oldest hotel man in this part of the state.

In 1874 he was united in marriage at Maple Rapids to Eliza C. Eicher. To this union were born three children, Herbert of Toledo, Grace at home, and Ivan, who is engaged in Red Cross work in New York, who with his wife survive. Mr. Pulfrey and family were identified with the Episcopal church, of which he had been an officer for many years.

Mr. Pulfrey was Republican in politics, and at various times while Alma was a village held positions of trust and responsibility, and for four years after the incorporation of Alma as a city, he represented the third ward as an alderman on the city council.

Mr. Pulfrey was a member of Alma Lodge, F. & A. M. No. 244, which conducted the funeral service from the home on West Superior street, Monday afternoon at 2:30, assisted by Dr. Davis of the Episcopal church of St. Louis.

Relatives from St. Johns, Chicago, and nearby towns attended the services Monday.

ORATORICAL CONTEST

Miss Field and Mr. Vreeland to Represent Alma at Albion.

Miss Mabel Field and Frank Vreeland, winners of the local contests at Alma College, two months ago, will represent the Maroon and Cream Friday night in the Michigan Interscholastic Oratorical Contest to be held at Albion, competing against representatives of Adrian, Albion, Olivet, Hillsdale, Hope and Kalamazoo colleges, and the Michigan State Normal of Ypsilanti.

Miss Field with the oration, "Victory or Defeat," will represent the Presbyterian institution in the women's contest to be held Friday afternoon. Vreeland will be the Alma representative in the men's contest at night, with the oration, "The Issue is Wilson."

Professor Roy Hamilton of the English department has been coaching both Miss Field and Mr. Vreeland for the contest, and expectations at the college are that both will place well.

CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING

Topics of community interest will be presented at the March meeting of the Civic league to be held this (Friday) afternoon at 3 o'clock at the home of Mrs. V. H. Shepard. The city water works question up to date will be explained by Mayor C. R. Murphy and our spring elections by Mrs. Shepard. New members are cordially invited.

The Seville and Sumner Farmers Club will meet with Mrs. William Schiff at 810 River avenue, Alma, on Thursday, March 10. A good program has been prepared and all are urged to attend a pot luck dinner at noon.

HOTEL MAN DEAD



GEO. W. PULFREY

NEW ASSOCIATION IS FORMED HERE

Alma Welfare Association Was Organized at Meeting on Wednesday.

The second meeting of the Alma Welfare Association was held in the Wright House parlor on Wednesday of this week at which time the constitution was read and adopted and the remaining officers elected.

The president, Mrs. Henry Soule, then explained the plans for the work as laid out by the executive committee. She also announced the appointment of Mrs. J. E. Fuller as executive secretary and stated that she will be at the association headquarters in the city hall on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday afternoons from 2 o'clock until 6 during the remainder of the season. She will also have general charge of the work of the association which will be reported to her by the investigating committees, of which the chairman of each ward is as follows:

First Ward—Miss Laura Soule assisted by Miss Winifred Trapp and Mrs. Rapson.

Second Ward—Miss Winifred Trapp assisted by Mrs. Jason Carmer.

Third Ward—Mrs. Geo. Randall.

Fourth Ward—Mrs. Gerhardt. A considerable fund of money is available for the use of this association which was raised for Red Cross work and has been turned over to the Welfare Association for its immediate needs. Miss Frances Stitt and Miss Laura Soule have been appointed on the purchasing committee and they will purchase materials (Continued on page four)

COMBINED DRIVES WERE SUCCESSFUL

Near East Relief and Hoover Funds Get Quota in Gratiot County

The report of the combined Hoover and Near East drives in Gratiot county, which had a quota of \$5,500, shows that the quota has been topped by the returns which have already come in. A few scattering reports are still to be sent in to the officers of the campaign, which will swell the figures to a slightly greater extent.

The quota of the Hoover fund for Gratiot county was \$5,000. To this sum was pledged a total of \$5,010.37, \$1,342.37 having already been paid in, leaving a balance of \$3,668.00 still to be paid. The amount set for Gratiot in the Near East fund was \$1,500 which was passed by a few dollars, if \$500.00 still due on pledges is all paid, as it is expected it will be; \$944.92 has already been paid into this fund. The few reports that are still to be made from various parts of the county should increase the totals to quite an extent.

ROBBED THURSDAY

Alma Young Man Loses His Roll in St. Louis.

About 8:30 Thursday evening, Charles Dove of this city, who had been in St. Louis collecting for the Metropolitan Insurance Co., of which he is the local agent, was relieved of over \$300.00 by two hold-up men, one of whom jabbed a revolver into Mr. Dove's ribs and asked him to produce. The hold-up took place as Dove was passing in front of the Hall Coal & Lumber Company's office. Two men stepped out from the shadows, one holding the revolver against Dove's ribs while the other went through his clothes. No trace of the men could be found by the St. Louis officers who were summoned immediately after the robbery took place.

FORUM SESSION HELD INTEREST

Chamber of Commerce Meeting Drew Out Many Members Tuesday Night.

GOOD ADDRESSES WERE GIVEN

William E. Reynolds, W. A. Bahlke and Joseph Winslow Were the Speakers.

The second monthly forum meeting of the Alma Chamber of Commerce was held Tuesday evening at the L. O. O. F. hall and proved to be an enjoyable as well as instructive affair for the members.

Nearly 175 members attended the forum meeting and nearly 50 others were turned away, because of the lack of room.

Following the luncheon at 6:15, with Charles H. Goggin, acting as toastmaster, short addresses were given by William E. Reynolds, city manager; William A. Bahlke, and Joseph Winslow.

Mr. Reynolds was called upon to speak on the subject, "City Paving and Road Work in 1921."

He called attention to the fact that petitions were held in for the paving of Pine avenue, Woodworth avenue, part of Downey, Prospect south from Superior to the railroad, and Park from Superior south to the railroad, and the expectation that a petition would be submitted very soon for the paving of Gratiot avenue, making in all about two miles of paving that Alma residents desire this year.

He called attention to the difference in cost of pavement 20 and 30 feet in width, and especially the cost of the street intersections to the city, showing that the amount of paving that the city could do in one year was somewhat limited because of the fact that funds for this purpose would be limited to some extent. He called attention to the desirability because of this and because of the cost to property owner of the 20 foot pavement, without curb, which could easily be widened at a later date by the addition of five feet and curb on each side of the street. He also called attention to the fact that the 20 foot pavement was desirable because of the fact that some vacant lots passed which it would be necessary to pave were not given a valuation high enough so that the cost of the paving could all be collected. The amount that can be assessed for this purpose is only twenty-five per cent of the total valuation.

He also spoke of the difficulty of improving all of the outlying streets at once. He called attention to the fact that where in 1916 Alma had only 20 miles of streets she now has 45 miles of streets to keep up, and that because of this growth which made unusual demands on the city, this work can only be done a little at a time as money is available, and in other cases where valuations are sufficient to allow collection in full of special tax for such improvement as is made.

William A. Bahlke was called upon to speak of Alma's Immediate Needs. First of Alma's needs he said was the re-opening of the Republic, which could only come as the re-adjustment comes in the period of deflation. At that he said, Alma is more fortunate than many places.

He spoke of the need of highways, especially a highway west to the county line, connecting with the trunk line to Grand Rapids, through Stanton, in order that Alma merchants, who in the past few years have been looking to the Republic, might again turn their attention to a greater extent to the farmers in this rich agricultural section of Michigan.

Another need he mentioned was paving, discussed by Mr. Reynolds, (Continued on page four)

MEET TUESDAY

Pre-Easter Campaign Will Be Planned Tuesday.

Next Tuesday in the M. E. church of this city a gathering of all the office bearers in the Protestant churches of the county will be held. The meeting is called in connection with the county wide evangelistic drive now on.

The first session will commence at 10 a. m. and it is expected among other speakers that the new Secretary of the Gratiot County Sunday School Association will be present.

At noon a basket picnic is planned. Delegates are to come provided with food, plates, etc., to enjoy this feature together.

In the afternoon a speaker of prominence is expected to be present. The meeting will adjourn about 4:00 o'clock in order to allow those from distant points to return home. Ministers and officers of Alma should use the opportunity which this convention presents without fail.